

# EDGE

Economic Development & Green Environment

## Pilot Program





# EDGE

## **Act 70**

- Enacted in the fall of 2017
- Directs DNR to incentivize brownfield redevelopment by manufacturers

## **Cross-Program Effort**

- Brownfields
- Air Management
- Green Tier





# EDGE

**EDGE is an economic development tool that promotes sustainable development in the form of manufacturing**

- By providing certainty to the community through Voluntary Party Liability Exemption standards, and;
- Through the implementation of an Environmental Management System;
- With the use of regulatory flexibility in air permitting incentives and Green Tier participation incentives.



# EDGE

## **Eligibility Criteria**

- Registration Operation Permit (ROP) eligible
- Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE) certificate of completion
- Green Tier participation

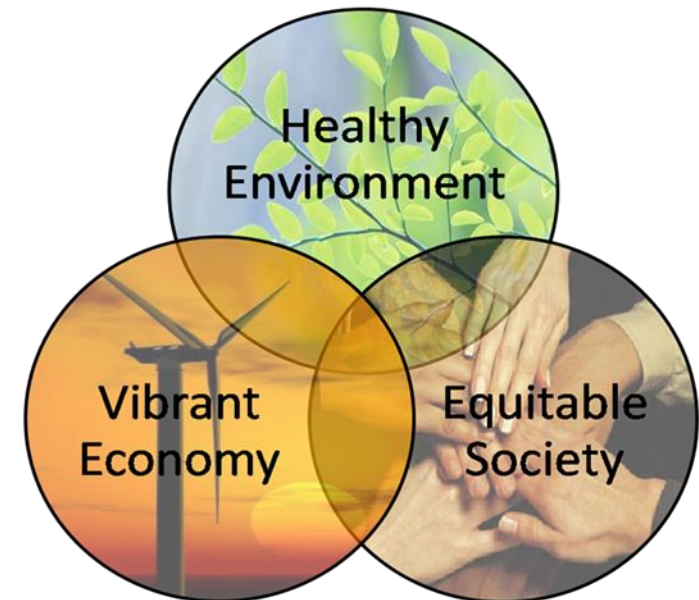




# EDGE

## EDGE Benefits

- 10 year exemption from implementing any new air controls, unless required under federal law
- Potential for the Type G Registration Permit





# Brownfields Cleanup and Reuse

## **Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE)**

- Environmental cleanup program that offers reduced liability for investigated pollutants
- Sites that have been remediated in the past can go through VPLE as well as sites with newly discovered contamination

## **Process**

- Assess and investigate hazardous substances on a property
- Conduct cleanup action
- Obtain DNR approval, follow NR700 rule process, and obtain closure letter

## **Certificate of Completion**

- Clear and certain assurance that all contamination on a property has been cleaned up to the satisfaction of the state
- Exemption from liability for any historical contamination that has been investigated
- Liability protection for current and future property owners

# Brownfields Cleanup and Reuse

## **Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE)**

- A variety of sites have completed VPLE including:

- ✓ Gas Stations
- ✓ Dry Cleaners
- ✓ Paper Mills
- ✓ Landfills
- ✓ Closed Manufacturing
- ✓ More...



- ~190 Certificates have been issued across the state
- A property is eligible for EDGE even if the Certificate was issued in the past



# Air Management

## **Registration Operation Permit (ROP)**

- Standardized permit that covers a group of eligible facilities
- A Registration permit defines eligible facilities, is drafted, undergoes public comment and is issued

## **Benefits**

- *Faster Decisions* - After issuance of the Registration Permit, facilities demonstrate eligibility and coverage is granted – usually within 15 days
- *Flexibility* - Registration Permit exempts a facility from needing a construction permit for modifications or new equipment

## **Costs**

- *No alternate limits* - Cannot accommodate source specific conditions
- *Permit does not lay out regulatory requirements* - Facility is responsible for understanding what rules apply and complying with all applicable requirements





# Air Management

## **Type G Registration Permit (ROP-G)**

- Minimizes “costs” of other ROPs
- Available to facilities emitting up to 80% of major source threshold (largest available)
- Some source specific conditions can be accommodated
- Requires that facility is accepted into Tier 2 of Green Tier
  - ✓ Demonstrated record of superior environmental performance
  - ✓ Environmental Management System
  - ✓ Annual compliance audits





# Air Management

## **Type G Registration Permit (ROP-G)**

- First built-in incentive for Tier 2 participants
- Developed as part of the EDGE program, but is available to all Tier 2 participants

Two paths have been developed to streamline Registration Permitting for the Type G:

1. RCP-G01 - Registration Construction Permit allows a facility to declare intent to enter Green Tier 2 and commence construction
2. ROP-G02 – Allows operation once Tier 2 status is obtained

# Green Tier

## Overview



# Green Tier

## How to participate?

– Charters

– Tier 1

– Tier 2





# Green Tier

## Who's in Green Tier?

- Businesses
- Trade Associations
- NGO's
- Communities



# Green Tier

## Benefits

- Single Point of Contact (SPOC)
- State recognition of environmental excellence
- Use of Green Tier logo
- Potential for regulatory flexibility
- Deferred Civil Enforcement





# Green Tier

## Commitments

### Charter

- Act upon goals and priorities of the charter agreement
- Annual progress reports

### Tier 1

- Environmental Management System (EMS)
- EMS audits by DNR-approved auditor
- Annual progress reports

### Tier 2

- Environmental Management System (EMS)
- EMS audits by DNR-approved auditor
- Annual compliance audits
- Annual progress reports

# EDGE

## What does participation look like?

### 2 Pathways:

- Single Facility
- Business Park



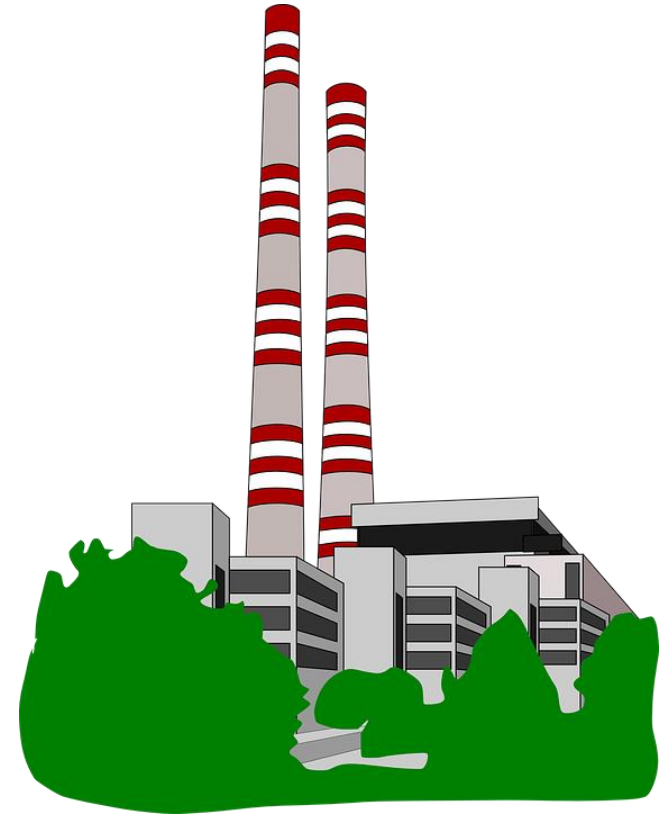




# EDGE

## Single Facility Example

- Locate on site in VPLE program
- Participate in Green Tier
- Receive ROP
- EDGE benefit



# EDGE

## **Green Business Park Example**

- Developing a VPLE site with multiple facilities
- Facilities work together to manage environmental aspects of the site under a Green Tier charter agreement
- 10-year Air incentive offered to those who qualify for a ROP
- ERTID / TIF used to complete VPLE and develop EMS for site





# EDGE

## **Current Focus**

- Bringing in Pilot Participants
- Communications
- Performance Measures
- Report to Legislature in 2022



# EDGE

This pilot has the potential to bring manufacturing jobs back to brownfields in a way that ensures sustainability

- EMS ensures responsible development and environmental management
- Continual improvement
- Avoid further contamination
- Improved quality of life





<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/GreenTier/EDGE>

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